



30 June 2011

Spice and other Prohibited Substances

1. On 10 August 2010, I issued USFK Command Policy Letter #55, which strictly prohibits the knowing use of any intoxicating substance (other than the lawful use of alcohol, tobacco, or caffeine products and the lawful use of medications consistent with their intended medical purpose and prescribed dosage) that is inhaled, injected, consumed, or introduced into the body in any manner to alter mood or function, such as "Spice." Violations of this command policy letter may subject the offender to severe consequences. Failure to comply with the prohibitions contained in this paragraph is a violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).
2. On 1 March 2011, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) ordered that five chemicals used to make "fake or synthetic marijuana" such as "Spice" are controlled substances. These chemicals are also illegal under the Republic of Korea's (ROK) Narcotics Control Law.
3. As noted by the DEA, most people who use products that contain these chemicals are apparently unaware of the significant short- and long-term harmful effects of their use. Emergency room physicians report that using these types of products cause serious side effects which include: convulsions, anxiety attacks, dangerously elevated heart rates, increased blood pressure, vomiting, and disorientation. In my view, these chemicals pose a clear and present danger to military readiness, the health and wellness of the force, and the maintenance of good order and discipline.
4. **Possessing, using, and distributing (including importing into the ROK) these controlled chemicals or the products that contain them (including, but not limited to "Spice") is illegal under US Federal law, ROK law and the UCMJ.**
5. I expect all USFK Service members, Department of Defense civilian employees, invited contractors, and their family members to fully adhere to US and ROK law regarding these banned chemicals.
6. Thank you for your professional service, and for your continued and unwavering vigilance.

We Go Together!

Walter L. Sharp

WALTER L. SHARP
General, US Army
Commander

FREEDOM'S FRONTIER!

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